

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 CPR-02 DRC-01 RSC-01 /047 W

----- 059879

R 091625Z JAN 74 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8932

INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, PFOR, BT, US

SUBJECT: THE CORONATION IN BHUTAN

1. I HAD A FRIENDLY CHAT THIS MORNING WITH AMBASSADOR PEMA, THE BHUTANESE REPRESENTATIVE IN DELHI. HE CONFIRMED THAT THE CORONATION OF THE NEW KING IS SCHEDULED FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF MAY 1974. INVITATIONS WILL BE SENT TO HEADS OF STATE OF NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND TO AMBASSADORS AND HIGH COMMISSIONERS IN DELHI. IF AN INVITATION COMES THROUGH AS EXPECTED, I WILL CERTAINLY ATTEND. IT DOESN'T LOOK AS THOUGH ANY OTHER US REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE INVITED.

2. IF THERE ARE REQUESTS OR INQUIRIES IN WASHINGTON, AS THE DATE APPROACHES, FOR INVITATIONS TO THE CORONATION, I HOPE WHOEVER IS CONCERNED WILL EXPLAIN. WE DON'T WANT TO PRESS THE BHUTANESE, WHO WILL HAVE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR A VERY LIMITED NUMBER OF GUESTS.

3. I BELIEVE THERE SHOULD BE A GIFT AND A FRIENDLY MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE YOUNG KING ON HIS CORONATION. I WILL SUGGEST LANGUAGE FOR A MESSAGE LATER. BUT IT IS NOT TOO EARLY TO START THINKING ABOUT WHAT THE GIFT WILL BE, HOW IT WILL BE FUNDED, AND HOW IT WILL BE SENT HERE IN TIME TO FORWARD IT TO THIMPU. I RECOMMEND A PRACTICAL BUT SUBSTANTIAL GIFT SUITABLE FOR AN EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLD BOY-KING. COULD WE COME UP WITH ONE OR MORE SMALL AIR-CONDITIONED FANS OR JEEPS THAT CAN NAVIGATE MOUNTAIN ROADS? IF WE DON'T HAVE THAT SORT OF MONEY,

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HOW ABOUT ONE OF THE SUPER NEW POLAROID CAMERAS, SOME SPECIAL

SHOTGUNS, A SMALL ASTRONOMICAL TELESCOPE, OR A HI-FI SET WITH
A COLLECTION OF AMERICAN RECORDS (CURRENT IN BHUTAN IS 220, AC, 50
CYCLES). LET'S MAKE A DECISION AND GET THE GIFT HERE BY
EARLY APRIL.
MOYNIHAN

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